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A N N U A L R E P O R T

FOR THE YEAR 1939.

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SYDNEY HUNT, M.R.C.S.(Eng.) L.R.C.P(Lond.)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

SHARDLO / RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1939.

Sydney Hunt, M.R.C.S., (Eng). L.R.C.P. (Lond.)
Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman & Members.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with the instruction of the Ministry of Health, Circular 2067, the Annual Report for the year 1939 is an interim one. A fuller report is to be presented at the end of the War.

The Birth Rate was 18.44 compared with 18.40 for 1938, and the Death Rate was 10.66 compared with 9.94

561 houses were built during the year by private enterprise, and 12 at Melbourne by the Council for the abatement of overcrowding cases.

Schemes of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for Ambaston, Chaddesden, Sandiacre and Stanton-by-Dale were postponed until after the War.

I am indebted to my fellow Officers of the Council for their courtesy and assistance during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,

SYDNEY HUNT.

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STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres) - 44,370

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, 1939-

(a) for calculation of Birth Rate 59,810

(b) for calculation of Death Rate or the incidence of notifiable diseases 61,050.

The estimated population at the present time, according to information in the possession of the National Registration Officer is approximately 65,000.

Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books - 19,838
(this is an increase of 546 over the number in 1938)

Rateable Value £345,498.

Net sum represented by a Penny Rate - £1,370.

VITAL STATISTICS.

| | Total | M. | F. |
|-----------------------------|-------|-----|-----|
| Live (Legitimate | 1076 | 529 | 547 |
| Births. (Illegitimate | 27 | 19 | 8 |
| | 1103 | 548 | 555 |

Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated population 18.44

| | Total | M. | F. | |
|---------------|-------|----|----|------------------|
| Still Births. | 52 | 26 | 26 | No Illegitimate. |

Rate per 1000 (live and still births) 36.68

| | Total | M. | F. |
|---------|-------|-----|-----|
| Deaths. | 651 | 330 | 321 |

Crude Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 10.66.

Death Rate per 1000 for comparative purposes 10.87.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 & 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :-
Rate per 1000 total.

| | Deaths. | (Live)Births. |
|-------------------------------|---------|----------------|
| No.29 Puerperal sepsis | nil | (&) nil |
| No.30 Other Puerperal causes. | 2 | (Still) 1.74 |

Death Rate of infants under one year of age :-

| | |
|---|-------|
| All infants per 1000 live births. | 42.57 |
| Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births. | 41.78 |
| Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births. | 74.06 |

| | |
|--|------|
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... | 94 |
| " " Measles(all ages) ... | nil. |
| " " Whooping cough (all ages) ... | 1 |
| " " Diarrhoea (under two years of age) | nil. |

It is satisfactory to note that there have been no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis or of infants (under two years of age) from Diarrhoea.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Particulars are as stated in the 1938 Report.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

S.HUNT, M.R.C.S., (Eng) L.R.C.P(Lond.) Medical Officer of Health.
F.G.FORMAN, M.S.I.A., L.R.San.I., Chief Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor.
G.L. ROE, M.S.I.A., Chief Assistant Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor.
W.H. STAPLEFORD, M.S.I.A., L.R.San.I., Second Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

Note. - Mr. Stapleford was appointed on February 6th. He is, at the time of writing, serving with H.M. Forces.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Alvaston & Boulton. The scheme for draining 20 houses at the far end of West Green Avenue to the sewer at the junction of Chellaston Road and Boulton Lane, was carried-out at a cost of £685, and all the house drains have been connected to the new sewer.

Breaston. The Breaston Brook was cleaned-out from the Long Eaton boundary up to the Council Houses.

A storm-water overflow was provided on the Marlborough Road sewer to prevent sewage backing-up the house drains, the site being very low.

Breaston & Draycott. A new sprinkler was provided at the joint Sewage Disposal Works.

Chaddesden. The proposal to extend the sewer along Morley Road up to Spondon Lane was postponed owing to the War. The Engineers' estimate was £2,500.

It was decided to obtain the sanction of the Ministry to proceed with the duplication of the main sewer through the Park as it was considered urgent owing to flooding on the Morley Road. The Engineers' estimate was £2,680.

Chellaston & Alvaston. The discharge of sewage from the Shelton Lock pumping station to the joint pumping station in Station Road, Chellaston, made it necessary to increase the discharge rate from the latter to the joint works, and this was done by fitting larger impellers which had the desired effect.

Littleover. The discharge of sewage from a sewer belonging to the Repton R.D.C., into the Shardlow R.D.C.'s sewer in Stenson Road led to legal action being taken by owners of houses which drained into the Repton sewer against both Councils, because of damage alleged to have been caused by sewage backing-up the house drains. The Shardlow Council were absolved of all liability and gave the Repton Council notice to cut-off their sewer from the Stenson Road sewer.

A storm-water overflow was constructed on the Jackson Avenue sewer off Uttoxeter Road at the joint expense of the Repton and Shardlow Councils, in order to prevent flooding of houses at the bottom end of the Avenue. On the conclusion of the Derby Corporation Storm-water Scheme, the Corporation have undertaken to duplicate their main sewer in Uttoxeter Road, the capacity of the present sewer being inadequate.

Sandiacre. The surface-water scheme was completed at a final cost of £10,480. The County Council contributed £3,141.

The Council instructed their Engineers to prepare a scheme for dealing with Sandiacre sewage within the parish instead of treatment at the joint works at Stapleford. The Engineers' estimate was £17,750 but consideration of the matter was postponed owing to the War.

Stanton-by-Dale. Further consideration of the proposed sewerage scheme was deferred until after the War. The Engineers' estimate was £17,800, towards which it was expected the Stanton Ironworks Company would contribute £6,000..

Elvaston. The scheme for dealing with Ambaston sewage was postponed. The effluent course through Thulston was cleaned-out.

Sewers in Private Streets. S.17 Public Health Act, 1936. The foul-water sewers in 38 streets in various parts of the District were taken-over by the Council.

WATER SUPPLIES.

25 additional Fire Hydrants were fixed in various Parishes. Improvement was made to the Draycott, Breaston & Sandiacre supply to deal with a possible breakdown of the Trunk Main.

Sources of supply were analysed from time to time with satisfactory results.

SCAVENGING.

The total cost of Scavenging and Refuse Disposal for the whole of the District in 1939 was £11,332. 3. 0d; the average cost per house being 11/9d. The whole of the work is done by Contract. The arrangement of the Scavenging Groups and the means of refuse disposal are as stated in the 1938 Report.

W.C. CONVERSION SCHEME.

During the year 37 privy middens and 118 pail closets were converted into water closets, making the total number of conversions carried out under the Scheme to be 824 privy middens and 2,126 pail closets. The total cost to the Council was £9,762. 13. 7d for 2,871 water closets at an average cost of £3. 8. 0d per closet.

CLOSET ACCOMODATION.

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| (a) Water closets. | 19,320 |
| (b) Pail closets. | 1,305 |
| (c) Privy Middens. | 351 |

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The proposed public conveniences at Chaddesden and Spondon were not built during the year.

SCHOOLS.

Alvaston. Improvements were carried out at the Elvaston Lane School with regard to sanitation, cloakroom accomodation and overcrowding.

Risley. The six pail closets were converted into water closets.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Licences were granted under section 269 Public Health Act, 1936, for 50 dwellings situated at Little Eaton & Weston.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACT. 1926-31.

A grant of £75 was made for one house at Stanton-by-Dale.

MILITARY CAMPS.

At the request of the Military Authorities the Council have undertaken the removal of privy soil from various Camps situated in their area. In those places where public water supplies and sewers are available water closets are being gradually installed so that by the end of 1940 there will be only a few Camps needing scavenging.

MORTUARIES. A mortuary was provided by the Council at Chellaston to serve the whole of the Rural District. The cost was £595 and the building is fully equipped in every way, including post-mortem instruments and sterilising apparatus. No use was made of the premises in 1939.

HOUSING ACT, 1936. OVERCROWDING. The 12 new houses at Melbourne were completed in the early part of the year and were duly occupied by families from overcrowded houses. The position prior to the outbreak of war was as follows :-

59 cases of overcrowding remained unabated, of which 22 were overcrowded by one-half unit.

14,220 houses had been measured.

By the end of the year 331 certificates had been issued for "permitted numbers" for 3218 houses.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS (SLAUGHTERHOUSES) ORDER, 1924

Three slaughter-houses were removed from the register by reason of non-occupation of premises, leaving 25 on the register.

EMERGENCY PETROL SUPPLIES.

Under the Emergency Powers (Defence) Regulations, 1939, all Local Authorities had to establish bulk supplies of petrol for the use of vehicles engaged upon Public Utility Services. The Council rent tanks and pumps at Chellaston and Spondon Garages, primarily for the use of the Scavenging Contractors and the cost of the petrol is recovered from the Contractors at retail rates.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The above Act came into force on October 1st 1939, and amongst other matters makes the registration compulsory of premises used for the preparation of food for sale. At the end of the year there were 48 such premises on the register.

A.R.P.

Two Decontamination Squads have been formed out of the Council's employees living in and near Spondon, and County Council employees, with headquarters at the Spondon Depot. The Officers in charge are Spondon District Surveyor and the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Men and Officers are classed as part-time volunteers without pay. The Public Health Department has been responsible for much work in connection with the reception, storage and distribution of A.R.P. equipment and supplies.

